

ent body. These ends are authoritatively accomplished as they draw upon the author's life long involvement with this system dating to graduate school in 1909.

Phylogenetic and ontogenetic mechanisms of development of the system are exhaustively treated. Invertebrate phyla are surveyed for the various circulatory devices responsible for water balance and turgor, nutrient utilization, waste disposal, respiration, and defense. Selective influences leading to specialization of the circulatory apparatus and to the vertebrate lymphatic system are treated. The comparative systematics and functions of the lymphatic system in each of the vertebrate classes are examined in depth. The single deficiency that might be noted is the relative lack of attention to the complex structuring of lymphoid tissues that has been gained since 1960 with respect to immune response events.

The book is graced by the author's erudite and impartial spirit, by scholarly familiarity with the history of ideas in this area, and by attention to the fascinating etymology of its terms. The text illustrations are profuse and consistently excellent.

BERNARD J. BRYANT, PH.D.

**CURRENT DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT—1970**—Henry Brainerd, M.D., William Watt Kerr Professor of Clinical Medicine, University of California School of Medicine, and Chief, University of California Medical Services, San Francisco General Hospital; Marcus A. Krupp, M.D., Clinical Professor of Medicine, Stanford University School of Medicine, Palo Alto, and Director, Palo Alto Medical Research Foundation; Milton J. Chatton, M.D., Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine, Stanford University School of Medicine, California Geriatric Consultant, and Research Associate, Palo Alto Medical Research Foundation; and Sheldon Margen, M.D., Professor of Human Nutrition, Department of Nutritional Science, University of California, Berkeley, and Lecturer, Department of Biochemistry, University of California School of Medicine, San Francisco, and Associate Authors. Lange Medical Publications, Drawer L, Los Altos, Ca. (94022). 1970. 884 pages, \$11.00.

This nicely bound, 884-page desk reference covering medical problems seen in all phases of practice can be recommended without reservation to young and old in the pursuit of medical knowledge. The 34 contributing authors all treat assigned subjects thoroughly but concisely, and up-to-date references follow each section for further study by the critical reader.

The authors disclaim intent to provide a textbook of medicine, but each of the 30 sections briefly covers situations seen in all fields of medical practice and all are prefaced by short, pertinent essentials of diagnosis. Differential diagnoses are often included and the prognosis is given where important. Tables, diagrams and illustrations are clearly reproduced, refreshingly brief, and easily remembered. The small sharp type-style is conducive to containing this compact volume within wieldy limits.

The casual or random reader will be pleased to find a table of abbreviations for the modern custom of alphabetical medical shorthand.

Newer methods of modalities of treatment are current. For example: L-DOPA, recently studied and considered for treatment of parkinsonism is described in excellent detail. The authors have also outlined older, time-proven agents of therapy.

Medical genetics is especially well done in the section by Margaret S. Kosek, beginning with a short resumé of current knowledge and extending through complex and complicated system tables. She also incorporates a treatise on cytogenetics, with exceptional diagrams and illustrations.

In summary, I enjoyed reading *Current Diagnosis and Treatment—1970*; and believe it a valuable addition to any medical reference library.

JAMES E. REEVES, M.D.

**DISEASES OF THE SKIN IN CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS—A COLOR ATLAS**—G. W. Korting, M.D., Director, Department of Dermatology, University Hospital, Mainz, Germany. American Edition Translated and Adapted by William Curth, M.D., Associate in Dermatology (Retired), College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University; Assistant Clinical Professor, New York Medical College; and Helen Ollendorff Curth, M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor of Dermatology (Retired), Special Lecturer in Dermatology, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University. W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia, Pa., (19105). 233 pages, \$21.00.

Nearly 400 beautiful illustrations, all but a few in excellent color, make this a very attractive and desirable book. A surprising amount of highly sophisticated information is contained in the tersely written text. There is no bibliography, but the names of authors principally connected with the conditions described are used freely and authoritatively. Professor Korting is Director, Department of Dermatology at the University Hospital in Mainz, Germany, and the American edition is translated, with appropriate editorial comments, by William and Helen Ollendorff Curth, both well known and highly respected dermatologists. The need for a pediatric atlas of dermatology is described in the preface by Professor Korting as great dermatologic differences between the child and the adult. These include the longer life of epidermal cells in childhood, higher elasticity of tissue, a special disposition toward "rashiness" as well as exudation and bulla formation. In addition apocrine glands become active mostly at the time of puberty. Further there are many distinctive dermatoses such as the childhood exanthems and mycoses of the hairy scalp, as well as many genodermatoses which have greatest impact in childhood. One glaring error is noted: cutis hyperelastica or Ehlers-Danlos syndrome is confused with cutis laxa (generalized elastolysis), which is spectacularly different from the former disease. The newer understanding of dyslipoidoses, inspired by Frederickson and Lees, is not considered. Neither is there a description of the newer classification of the ichthyoses, as initiated by Frost and Van Scott. The definition of the phakomatoses is beclouded by omission of the fact that these syndromes of anomalies perforce have eye components. On the other hand, this reviewer learned that kwashiorkor means "red boy". The leopard syndrome of Gorlin is omitted from the syndromes with lentigines. It should be emphasized however that these aberrations are unimportant; the book is remarkably inexpensive for a color atlas of this high degree of quality, a special need is fulfilled, and the sophistication of the text will appeal to the expert in dermatology. Pediatricians should find the book invaluable. All those interested in skin diseases would want to have the book, I would imagine. Treatment is not considered, which is just as well, as such information can be found elsewhere.

REES B. REES, M.D.

**HANDBOOK OF OCULAR THERAPEUTICS AND PHARMACOLOGY**—3rd Edition—Philip P. Ellis, M.D., Professor and Head, Division of Ophthalmology, Department of Surgery, University of Colorado Medical Center, Denver; and Donn L. Smith, M.D., Ph.D., Professor, Department of Pharmacology, University of Louisville School of Medicine, Louisville. The C. V. Mosby Company, 3207 Washington Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. (63103), 1969. 251 pages, \$10.75.

This handbook is clearly written and succeeds in the effort made to "present in a concise form the basic considerations of current ocular therapy and pharmacology".

The authors have wisely not attempted to cover all aspects of therapy, but have provided an adequately detailed ready reference for the ophthalmologist, general practitioner, and resident physician. The third edition contains new tables and dosage schedules for therapeutic